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BOROUGH OF LEOMINSTER
HEREFORDSHIRE




JOINT
ANNUAL REPORT

of the
Medical Officer of Health
and of the
Public Health Inspector

for the year

1959



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MEMBERS OF THE COUNCIL

(As at 31st December, 1959)

* THE WORSHIPFUL MAYOR, Councillor F. W. WOODWARD, J.P.

* THE DEPUTY MAYOR, Councillor (Mrs.) P. P. PEATT

Aldermen:

F. H. DALE, J.P.

* N. DAVIS

* A. E. P. HAMMOND

H. B. THOMAS (Chairman of the Streets and Works Committee)

Councillors:

* W. D. BERRY, J.P.

* A. T. BISHOP (Chairman of the Housing and Public Health Committee)

* Mrs. I. BOOTH

S. R. BOOTH, J.P.

R. B. BURKE (Chairman of the Industrial Development and Overspill Committee)

C. P. GOODWIN (Chairman of the Finance Committee)

* C. W. HARRIS

* D. R. JONES

* H. E. POWELL

* G. J. WILLIAMS (Chairman of the Baths and Pleasure Grounds Committee)

* Members of the Housing and Public Health Committee

Town Clerk and Chief Financial Officer - K. DOWNS

Borough Surveyor - - - - H. SCHOFIELD

STAFF OF THE PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT

Medical Officer of Health:—

G. D. K. NEEDHAM, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.P.H.,

Westfield Walk, Leominster.

(Telephone: Leominster 2049)

Public Health Inspector:—

A. STUART SMITH, M.A.P.H.I., Cert. Meat and other Foods,

Grange Court, Leominster.

(Telephone: Leominster 2257)

Office Staff:—

Clerk to the Medical Officer of Health: C. A. PREECE.

Clerk to the Public Health Inspector: Miss E. J. POWELL.

Westfield Walk,

Leominster.

To the Mayor, Aldermen and Members of the Leominster Borough Council.

Ladies and Gentlemen,

I herewith present my Annual Report for 1959, together with the Report of the Public Health Inspector.

Vital Statistical Section.

For some reason the Birth Rate in the Borough was at a higher figure than for some years. This is probably not more than a statistical curiosity; it will be interesting to see whether this figure continues to remain high in years to come.

Infectious Diseases.

The notification of infectious diseases remained very low once again, as in 1958, except for a rise in the number of notified cases of Pneumonia.

Drainage and Sewerage.

It is hoped that a proper sewerage system is now much nearer being a fact than last year.

Housing.

At last a serious start has been made in the Clearance and Demolition of Unfit Houses, of which there are many in the Borough.

Several Clearance Areas were declared, of which two small ones were confirmed. One larger area was purchased by agreement for redevelopment as a housing site and many of the tenants rehoused in the new housing site at Kenwater Close.

There is no doubt that there remain a considerable number of sub-standard houses still occupied in the town and further action will have to be undertaken as and when land becomes available for building. The Council's policy of purchasing land covered by unsatisfactory property and redeveloping it as a housing site is a satisfactory one and will be of increasing importance as land for building becomes more difficult to find.

My thanks are due to Mr. Smith for his co-operation and help during the year just past and to Mr. Preece for preparing much of this report.

G. D. K. NEEDHAM,

Medical Officer of Health.

STATISTICS AND VITAL STATISTICS OF THE AREA

Area (in acres)	8,728
Estimated mid-year home population	6,170
Average number of persons per acre	0.7
Number of inhabited houses	1,981
Average number of inhabited houses per acre	0.23
Average number of persons per house	3.1
Rateable Value	£71,078
Sum represented by a Penny Rate	£285

LIVE AND STILL BIRTHS

Live Births

	Males	Females	Total
Legitimate ...	50	55	105
Illegitimate ...	3	3	6
	—	—	—
	53	58	111
	—	—	—

Live Birth Rate per 1,000 estimated mid-year home population:

	1959	1958	1957	1956	1955
Leominster Borough (Crude)	18.0	16.6	14.3	16.1	16.2
„ „ (Adjusted)	17.6	16.2	14.0	15.7	15.8
England and Wales	16.5	16.4	16.1	15.7	15.0

Illegitimate Live Births

Per cent of total live births:

Leominster Borough ...	5.4
England and Wales ...	5.1

Still Births

	Males	Females	Total
Legitimate ...	—	4	4
Illegitimate ...	—	—	—
	—	—	—
	—	4	4
	—	—	—

Still Birth Rate per 1,000 total live and still births:

	1959	1958	1957	1956	1955
Leominster Borough	34.7	9.7	11.2	Nil	19.8
England and Wales	21.0	21.6	22.4	23.0	23.1

Total Live and Still Births

		Males	Females	Total
Legitimate	...	50	59	109
Illegitimate	...	3	3	6
		—	—	—
		53	62	115
		—	—	—

INFANT DEATH RATES**Neonatal Mortality**

Deaths of Infants under 4 weeks old

		Males	Females	Total
Legitimate	...	—	1	1
Illegitimate	...	—	1	1
		—	—	—
		—	2	2
		—	—	—

Neonatal Mortality Rate per 1,000 live births:—

Leominster Borough	...	...	18.0
England and Wales	...	...	15.8

Perinatal Mortality

Still Births and Deaths of Infants under 1 week old

		Males	Females	Total
Legitimate	...	—	5	5
Illegitimate	...	—	1	1
		—	—	—
		—	6	6
		—	—	—

Perinatal Mortality Rate per 1,000 live and still births:—

Leominster Borough	...	...	54.0
England and Wales	...	...	34.2

Infant MortalityDeaths of Infants under one year of age
(including those under 4 weeks)

		Males	Females	Total
Legitimate	...	1	1	2
Illegitimate	...	—	1	1
		—	—	—
		1	2	3
		—	—	—

Infant Mortality Rate per 1,000 related live births—:

		1959	1958	1957	1956	1955
Leominster Borough	Total ...	27.0	29.4	11.4	30.3	Nil
	Legitimate	19.0	31.2	11.5	30.6	Nil
	Illegitimate	166.6	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
England and Wales	Total ...	22.2	22.5	23.1	23.7	24.9
	Legitimate	*	22.3	22.8	23.5	24.6
	Illegitimate	*	27.8	30.0	28.7	31.7

* Figures not yet available

MATERNAL MORTALITY

Total number of Maternal Deaths ... Nil

Maternal Mortality Rate per 1,000 live and still births:

Leominster Borough ... Nil
England and Wales ... 0.32

DEATHS

	Males	Females	Total
Total number of deaths from all causes ...	43	45	88

Death Rate per 1,000 estimated mid-year home population:—

	1959	1958	1957	1956	1955
Leominster Borough (Crude)	14.3	14.8	16.0	16.4	14.0
Leominster Borough (Adjusted)	11.6	10.3	11.3	11.1	11.4
England and Wales ...	11.6	11.7	11.5	11.7	11.7

Cancer

	Males	Females	Total
Total deaths from Malignant Disease ...	3	10	13

Cancer Death Rate per 1,000 estimated mid-year home population:

	1959	1958	1957	1956	1955
Leominster Borough ...	2.11	2.12	2.27	3.10	2.29
England and Wales ...	2.14	2.12	2.09	2.08	2.10

Cardio-Vascular Disease

	Males	Females	Total
Total deaths from Cardio-Vascular Disease ...	24	22	46

Cardio-Vascular Death Rate per 1,000 est. mid-year home population:

	1959	1958	1957	1956	1955
Leominster Borough ...	7.45	7.67	9.10	8.44	9.48
England and Wales ...	5.88	6.07	5.84	6.00	5.99

Respiratory Disease (excluding Tuberculosis)

	Males	Females	Total
Total deaths from Respiratory Disease ...	10	7	17

Respiratory Disease Death Rate per 1,000 est. mid-year home population:

	1959	1958	1957	1956	1955
Leominster Borough ...	2.76	1.30	2.27	1.30	0.82
England and Wales ...	1.53	1.37	1.38	1.35	1.32

CAUSES OF DEATH (all ages)

Disease	Males	Females	Total
Malignant neoplasm, breast ...	—	4	4
Malignant neoplasm, uterus ...	—	1	1
Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasms ...	3	4	7
Leukaemia, aleukaemia ...	—	1	1
Vascular lesions of nervous system ...	7	5	12
Coronary disease, angina ...	5	4	9
Hypertension with heart disease ...	3	—	3
Other heart disease ...	6	8	14
Other circulatory disease ...	3	5	8
Influenza ...	2	2	4
Pneumonia ...	4	1	5
Bronchitis ...	3	3	6
Other diseases of respiratory system ...	1	1	2
Ulcer of stomach and duodenum ...	1	—	1
Congenital malformations ...	—	1	1
Other defined and ill-defined diseases ...	3	4	7
Motor vehicle accidents ...	1	—	1
All other accidents ...	1	1	2
TOTAL	43	45	88

INFECTIOUS DISEASES NOTIFIED IN NORTH HEREFORDSHIRE DURING THE YEAR 1959

Disease	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	April	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	TOTAL
Whooping Cough	...	5	1	7	6	2	—	1	3	1	3	8	38
Measles	...	82	117	60	30	33	42	20	3	—	1	—	388
Scarlet Fever	...	—	8	2	2	5	9	4	3	3	4	6	46
Erysipelas	...	—	—	1	—	1	—	—	—	1	—	—	4
Acute Pneumonia	...	2	6	15	5	—	2	—	1	—	1	1	33
Dysentery	...	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	3
Food Poisoning	...	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	3
Tuberculosis													
Pulmonary	...	—	1	1	1	5	—	—	—	—	3	2	13
Tuberculosis													
Non-Pulmonary	...	—	—	1	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	2

NOTIFICATION OF INFECTIOUS DISEASE

Comparative figures for previous years—Leominster Borough

Disease				1959	1958	1957	1956	1955
Whooping Cough	...	...		1	3	80	4	—
Measles	...	...		8	8	130	13	198
Scarlet Fever	...	...		12	5	10	12	6
Erysipelas	...	...		—	1	1	2	1
Acute Pneumonia	...	...		10	—	5	—	—
Dysentery	...	...		—	2	14	—	—
Food Poisoning	...	...		2	—	—	3	—
Tuberculosis:								
Pulmonary	...	...		3	2	12	7	3
Non-Pulmonary	...	...		—	1	—	—	3
Acute Poliomyelitis:								
Paralytic	...	...		—	—	5	—	1
Non-Paralytic	...	...		—	—	9	—	3

NOTIFICATION OF INFECTIOUS DISEASE

Comparative figures for previous years—North Herefordshire

Disease				1959	1958	1957	1956	1955
Whooping Cough	...	...		38	39	192	87	104
Measles	...	...		388	258	144	561	649
Scarlet Fever	...	...		46	28	71	42	33
Erysipelas	...	...		4	2	7	8	6
Acute Pneumonia	...	...		33	14	49	20	20
Dysentery	...	...		3	16	38	7	6
Food Poisoning	...	...		3	5	10	—	—
Typhoid Fever	...	...		—	—	—	—	1
Paratyphoid Fever	...	...		—	1	—	—	—
Puerperal Pyrexia	...	...		—	2	3	2	3
Tuberculosis								
Pulmonary	...	...		13	7	33	19	28
Non-Pulmonary	...	...		2	3	4	6	9
Acute Poliomyelitis								
Paralytic	...	...		—	—	12	1	2
Non-Paralytic	...	...		—	—	14	—	3
Malaria (contracted abroad)	...			—	—	—	—	1

COMPARATIVE CASE RATES FOR CERTAIN INFECTIOUS DISEASES

Disease			North Here- fordshire	England & Wales
Whooping Cough	...	...	0.99	0.73
Measles	...	...	10.16	11.88
Scarlet Fever	...	...	1.20	1.05
Erysipelas	...	...	0.10	0.07
Acute Pneumonia	...	...	0.97	0.59
Dysentery	...	...	0.08	0.78
Food Poisoning	...	...	0.08	0.22
Tuberculosis:				
Pulmonary	...	...	0.34	0.54
Non-Pulmonary	...	...	0.05	0.06

TUBERCULOSIS

		Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary	
		Males	Females	Males	Females
Number on Register at					
31st December, 1958	...	36	24	3	2
New cases notified	...	3	—	—	—
Moved into district	...	1	—	—	—
Recovered	...	2	1	1	—
Died from other causes	...	—	1	—	—
Number on Register at					
31st December, 1959	...	38	22	2	2

Year	New Notifications	Total cases on Register	Deaths	Recoveries
1955	6	67	—	1
1956	7	68	1	2
1957	13	70	1	6
1958	3	65	1	6
1959	3	64	1	4

NATIONAL HEALTH SERVICE ACT, 1946, Section 26

VACCINATION AND IMMUNISATION

Vaccination and Immunisation are a County Council responsibility, and the figures given below have been kindly supplied by the County Medical Officer of Health.

Numbers of children in the district who were immunised during the year:

Immunisation against	Age of child			Total	Reinforcing Injections
	Under 1	1-4	5-14		
Diphtheria ...	24	31	31	86	140
Whooping Cough ...	44	5	1	50	—

Numbers of children in the district who were vaccinated against Smallpox during the year:

Vaccination against Smallpox	Age of child					Total	Revaccinations
	Under 1 yr.	1 yr	2-4	5-14	15 & over		
	53	1	—	—	3	57	11

NATIONAL ASSISTANCE ACT, 1948, Section 47

NATIONAL ASSISTANCE (AMENDMENT) ACT, 1951

No action needed to be taken under this section during the year.

PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR'S SECTION OF REPORT

WATER

PIPED SUPPLIES (Public Water Mains)

Chlorination of piped water continued throughout the year. At the Waterworks Pumping Station a modern type chlorination plant is in operation.

- (1) The piped water supply of the area and of its several parts has mainly been satisfactory in quality and fully satisfactory in quantity.

(2) BACTERIOLOGICAL EXAMINATIONS.

(a) RAW WATER BEFORE TREATMENT—One sample taken and showing organisms of excretal origin.

(b) WATER AFTER CHLORINATION—50 samples taken of which 49 were entirely free of organisms of excretal origin.

Number of samples taken from taps at consumers' premises	25
--	-----	-----	----

Number of samples taken from Waterworks Pumping Station	25
---	-----	-----	----

- (3) No plumbo-solvent action—hard water.

- (4) ACTION TAKEN IN RESPECT OF ANY FORM OF CONTAMINATION—immediate re-sampling.

- (5) CHEMICAL EXAMINATION—ONE SAMPLE TAKEN which was satisfactory and one sample taken for FLUORIDE CONTENT (FLUORIDE NIL).

- (6) Number of dwelling-houses supplied from Public Water Mains:

(a) Direct to houses	1828
----------------------	-----	-----	-----	------

(b) By means of standpipes	14
----------------------------	-----	-----	-----	----

Of approximately 391 occupied houses in the Out-Parish about 259 houses are supplied with piped chlorinated water.

In the early part of the year the Council's Water Main was extended to serve houses at Ivington Green which houses in previous years relied on shallow dip well water of doubtful standard.

The 1958 report indicated that preliminary stages had been approved relating to proposals for an improved water supply collection and distribution system (Midsummer Meadow Source to replace Worcester Road Source) and the construction of a 300,000 gallon reservoir at the Newlands. In the latter part of 1959 works commenced on the above scheme and is proceeding.

SHALLOW WELLS OR SPRING WATER SUPPLIES

The approximate number of houses relying on spring or well water is as follows:

Out-Parish	132
------------	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----

REMARKS

The following Out-Parish areas are not provided with mains piped water supplies:

Brierley, Stagbatch, Aulden and Wintercott, Stretford and Hennor, Elms Green, Wharton and Marlbrook.

WATER SAMPLES TAKEN AND SUBMITTED FOR ANALYSIS

(a) Piped supplies (House taps, Waterworks Well, Midsummer Meadow Well and Western Supply Well)	...	...	...	...	53
(b) Wells, boreholes and springs	...	...	...	...	16
(c) Open air Swimming Bath	...	...	...	...	28

DRAINAGE AND SEWERAGE

House drains and other buildings (old premises)					
Smoke, colour and water tests	...	...	...	...	11
New drains laid	...	...	...	...	25
Cleansed, trapped or ventilated	...	...	...	...	37
Inspection chambers built	...	...	...	...	12
Septic tanks built or cleansed	...	...	...	...	5
Sinks installed	...	...	...	...	11
Additional closets, renewals or conversions	...	...	...	...	24
Baths installed	...	...	...	...	14
Wash hand basins installed	...	...	...	...	13

BOROUGH PROPER—Drainage of old premises is in the main poor, consisting usually of unjointed pipes, devoid of inspection chambers or ventilation shafts.

No Borough sewage works exists and sewage disposal is to an open ditch. Proposals for an improved sewerage and a sewage disposal system have been approved.

OUT-PARISH—New houses are drained to septic tanks.

SEWAGE DISPOSAL

Approximate number of occupied houses drained to sewer:

Borough Proper	...	...	...	...	1562
Out-Parish	...	...	...	...	100

Number of houses not drained to sewer:

Borough Proper	...	...	...	...	23
Out-Parish	...	...	...	...	291

RIVERS AND STREAMS

No houses within the Borough area experienced flooding from rivers during the year. One house in Out-Parish flooded.

Many houses, however, in the flood line, are of low standard, prejudicial to health and of a type which should be demolished and replaced by dry houses on suitable sites.

TENTS AND CARAVANS

Camping does not exist on a large scale. No sites registered.

REFUSE COLLECTION, REMOVAL, DISPOSAL AND TREATMENT

(1)	Collection—Borough Proper ...	Vehicular collection once per week
	Out-Parish ...	Vehicular collection weekly or fortnightly according to locality
	Dustbins renewed ...	75
(2)	Disposal of refuse ...	Tipping
(3)	Treatments against rodents ...	Periodical baiting and poisoning

DISINFECTIONS AND DISINFESTATIONS

Premises fumigated or disinfected ...	5
Mode of operation ...	Fumigators and liquid spraying

PREVENTION OF DAMAGE BY PESTS ACT, 1949

The sewer received one treatment at certain manholes. Little evidence of rat infestation was found in the sewer. The Public Abattoir, Sewage Ditch and Refuse Tip received periodic treatments.

Sewers:

Number of manholes treated ...	10
Number of treatments ...	1

Dwelling-houses, Farms, Business Premises and Local Authority Premises:

Number treated against rats ...	43
Number treated against mice ...	1

FACTORIES ACTS, 1937 and 1948

Number on Register (excluding Building Sites)	90
Number of Inspections	61
Number of written notices served	7

Cases in which defects were found, or remedied:

	Found	Remedied
Want of cleanliness	7	7
Sanitary conveniences (unsuitable, defective or insufficient)	5	4
Miscellaneous	3	2

HOUSING

The Leominster proposals and plan of action submitted to the Ministry of Housing and Local Government in August, 1955 under the Housing Repairs and Rents Act, 1954, for dealing with houses which appear to be unfit for human habitation and of houses which ought to be included in Clearance Areas, together with action in relation to the houses within the next five years, are again set out below for reference purposes.

- (i) Estimated number of houses unfit for human habitation within the meaning of Section 9 of the Housing Repairs and Rents Act, 1954, and suitable for action under Section 11 or Section 25 of the Housing Act, 1936 ... 340
- (ii) Period in years which the Council think necessary for securing the demolition of all the houses in (i) ... 10/15 yrs.

Orders already made, etc.

- (iii) Number of houses in (i) in clearance areas and already covered by operative clearance or compulsory purchase orders or owned by the local authority 80

Action in the first five years.

- (iv) Number of houses which are to be included in clearance areas still to be declared and which within the first five years will be owned by the local authority or will have been included in a Clearance Order or a Compulsory Purchase Order submitted to the Minister 140
- (v) Number of houses under (iii) and (iv) to be patched (if necessary) and retained within the five years under Section 2 of the Housing Repairs and Rents Act, 1954, for temporary accommodation 10
- (vi) Number of houses under (iii) and (iv) to be demolished in the first five years 120
- (vii) Number of houses (including those already comprised in operative demolition orders) to be demolished in the five years as a result of action under Section 11 of the Housing Act, 1936 5

Action and Performance against (iv) is as follows:

POST WAR CLEARANCE AREAS

At the close of the year 9 Areas had been declared as Clearance Areas covering 54 houses as follows:

Area No.	Premises in Area	
50	69, 71, 73, 75, 77, 79, 81, 83, Bargates. 5, 6, 7, Westfield Walk	11 houses
51	14, 16, 18, 20, 22, 24, 26, 28, 30, 32, 34, New Street	11 houses
52	3, 5, 7, 9, 11, 13, 15, 17, North Road	8 houses
53	4, 5, 6, Strangwards Court	3 houses
54	5, 7, 9, 11, New Street	4 houses
55	19, and 21, New Street	2 houses
56	51, and 53, Mill Street	2 houses
57	7, 9, 11, Bridge Street	3 houses
58	50, 52, 54, 56, 58, 60, 62, 64, 64a, 64b, South St.	10 houses
TOTAL		54 houses

The following Clearance Orders were confirmed during the year:

Clearance Order No. 54—5, 7, 9, 11, New Street (4 houses)

Clearance Order No. 55—19, and 21, New Street (2 houses)

ACQUISITIONS BY AGREEMENT

Agreement was reached during year for the acquisition of the land and buildings included in Clearance Area No. 58.

Action taken against (iii) above (Operative Clearance Orders).

ACQUISITIONS BY LOCAL AUTHORITY

2 houses and land situate in pre-war Clearance Area No. 44, namely 47, and 49, South Street were acquired during the year for demolition and re-development purposes.

Year demolished	Number of houses demolished
1955	1
1956	4
1957	4
1958	11
1959	9
	<hr/>
	29
	<hr/>

Number of houses under Operative pre-war Clearance Orders void at 31st December, 1959 23

Action taken against (vii) above Operative Demolition Orders or Undertakings.

ACQUISITIONS BY LOCAL AUTHORITY

2 individual unfit houses were acquired during the year,—13, Gateway Lane, and 43, South Street, the latter of which has been demolished.

Number of houses demolished	Year demolished
2	1956
2	1958
3	1959

HOUSING STATISTICS

- (1) The total applications for new Council houses at 31st December, 1958 was 386.
- (2) The number of houses situate in Clearance Areas covered by operative Clearance Orders confirmed prior to 1940 and still standing is 51 of which 28 are occupied. This figure shows a steady fall. At the 31st December, 1958 the number of houses occupied was 43.
- (3) Families re-housed during the year from Clearance Areas covered by operative Clearance Orders prior to 1940 ... 11
Families rehoused from Post-War Clearance Areas (1959) ... 10
Families rehoused from individual unfit houses or parts (1959) ... 1
- (4) Total number of Clearance Area houses demolished:
Pre-war 1939 ... 60
Post-war ... 69 ... 129
- (5) Individual unfit houses demolished voluntarily and under Housing Acts 1936 and 1957:
Pre-war 1939 ... 16
Post-war ... 26 ... 42
- (6) Total number of individual unfit houses subject to Demolition Order or undertakings still standing ... 4
- (7) Number of individual unfit houses subject to Demolition Order occupied at 31st December, 1959 ... 1
- (8) Parts of buildings closed during year 1959 ... 1
- (9) Number of houses and flats on which Improvement Grant applications approved ... 12

NUMBER OF NEW HOUSES ERECTED DURING THE YEAR

(a)	Total	...	...	...	...	...	...	48
(b)	With State Assistance under Housing Acts:							
	(1)	By Local Authority	...	...	...	...	...	33
	(2)	By other bodies or persons	...	...	...	...	...	—
(c)	Without State Assistance:							
	(1)	By other bodies or persons						
		(a)	Borough	...	...	...	...	7
		(b)	Out-parish	...	...	...	...	8

New Street and Kenwater Close development (Council houses). Works to a contract entered into in 1958 for the erection of 18 - 2 bedroom type houses and 22 - 3 bedroom type houses, is nearing completion. At the end of the year 17 houses had been occupied by inhabitants of houses from Clearance Areas or individual unfit premises.

WESTFIELD ESTATE—NEWLANDS ROAD (Private Enterprise Section)

Two houses were completed and occupied during the year.

WESTFIELD ESTATE (Council Houses)

The Westfield Estate has a total of 179 inhabited post-war Council houses, all of traditional type. Houses completed and occupied during the year—16.

HOUSE PURCHASE SCHEME

17 applications for advances under the provisions of the Housing (Financial Provisions) Act, 1958, as amended by the House Purchase and Housing Act, 1959 were received during the year, and at the 31st December, 1959 the number approved for advances was 15.

**STATISTICS RELATING TO COUNCIL HOUSES AND FLATS
BOROUGH AND OUT-PARISH**

				Built Pre- 1939	Built Post-war 1947-59	Old houses acquir'd	Con- vers'ns	Total	
Caswell Estate									
Caswel Terrace	...			8	—	—	—	8	
Caswell Crescent	...			28	—	—	—	28	
Caswell Road	...			54	—	—	—	54	
Worcester Road	...			8	—	—	—	8	
								98	
Gateway Lane									
Croft Street	...	...		43	4	—	—	47	
Churchill Avenue	...			—	42	—	—	42	
George Street	...	...		—	2	—	—	2	
Mortimer Street	...			39	—	—	—	39	
Mortimer Close	...			—	12	—	—	12	
Mortimer Place	...			2	—	—	—	2	
Holland Road	...			6	20†	—	—	26	
Wigmore Street	...			10	16‡	—	—	26	
George Street	...	...		—	24*	—	—	24	
								220	
Westfield Estate									
Westfield Walk	...			—	9	—	—	9	
West Croft	...	...		—	30	—	—	30	
Sandpits	...	...		—	62	—	—	62	
Pump Piece	...	...		—	55	—	—	55	
Newlands Road	...			—	23	—	—	23	
								179	
Individual Areas									
Cranes Lane	...	...		6	—	—	—	6	
Kenwater Close	...			—	17	—	—	17	
Rainbow Street	...			6	—	—	—	6	
								29	
Out-Parish Estates									
Hengrave Green, Ivington				—	12‡	—	—	12	
								12	
Properties Acquired and Standing									
Bargates	...	...		—	—	3	—	3	
Dishley Street	...			—	—	1	—	1	
Etnam Street	...	...		—	—	7	—	7	
West Croft	...	...		—	—	1	—	1	
Library House	...			—	—	1	—	1	
Grange Court	...			—	—	1	—	1	
Newman House	...			—	—	—	6°	6	
47, South Street	...			—	—	1	—	1	
49, South Street	...			—	—	1	—	1	
13, Gateway Lane	...			—	—	1	—	1	
50/64b, South Street	...			—	—	10	—	10	33
				210	328	27	6	571	

† Temporary prefabricated bungalows (10 year type).

‡ Permanent prefabricated houses (Airey type).

* Permanent prefabricated houses (Cornish Units).

° Conversion to 2 houses and 4 flats.

SUMMARY

Types and numbers of Council houses:

Permanent prefabricated—Airey type	...	...	28
Permanent prefabricated—Cornish Unit	...	...	24
Temporary Prefabricated bungalows (10 year type)	...	...	20
Traditional brick houses—454			
Traditional brick flats—12	...	...	466
Old houses acquired and still standing	...	...	27
Conversion—Newman House flats	...	...	6
			571

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD

NUMBER AND TYPE OF FOOD PREMISES

Type of Premises	Number of Premises
(a) GROCERS (including sale of fruit, fish, game, vegetables and pre-packed ice-cream)	38
(b) SWEETS and SUGAR CONFECTIONERY (including sale of pre-packed ice-cream)	11
(c) RESTAURANTS and CATERING ESTABLISHMENTS (including fish and chip fryers, sale of pre-packed ice-cream)	13
(d) LICENSED PREMISES (Hotels, Inns and Clubs)	31
(e) BAKERS and CONFECTIONERS	8
(f) BUTCHERS	9
(g) SCHOOL MEAL KITCHENS	4
(h) CORN STORES and SHOPS	7
(i) MOBILE CANTEENS (Stalls)	2
(j) POULTERERS	5
Total	128

NUMBER OF FOOD PREMISES, by TYPE,

REGISTERED UNDER SECTION 16 of the FOOD AND DRUGS ACT, 1955

(k) SALE OF PRE-PACKED ICE CREAM

Grocers	...	...	...	...	...	...	12
Restaurants and Catering Establishments	...	...					12
Sweets and Sugar Confectionery (including Mobile Canteen	...	...	...	...	...		9
						Total ...	33

Number of samples of ice cream sent for analysis 25

Number of new registrations during year ... 6

(l) PREPARATION OR MANUFACTURE OF SAUSAGES, POTTED, PRESSED, PICKLED or PRESERVED FOOD

Butchers	...	...	...	...	...	...	5
Bakers and Confectioners	...	...	...	...	...		3
Fish Fryers	...	...	...	...	...		2

ICE CREAM

There are no ice-cream manufacturing premises in operation in the district. All retail premises have electric continuous freezers and retail pre-packed ice cream only.

Sampling

Sampling for bacteriological analysis is carried out from time to time.

Number of samples falling into Grade 1 (satisfactory) ... 25

Total samples analysed ... 25

FOOD PREMISES—Inspection, Supervision and Comment

There are no food factories in the area other than retail shops, bake-houses, restaurants and hotel kitchens.

Routine inspections are carried out from time to time under the Food and Drugs Act, 1955, Food Hygiene Regulations, 1955 and byelaws made under the Food and Drugs Act. Contraventions are followed up by communications and reports to the appropriate Committee when found necessary.

In the annual report of 1956 it was stated that in place of initial registration of certain types of food premises carrying little value from the point of view of public health an annual licensing system covering food premises would tend towards improved hygiene and equipment.

In the 1957 report the matter was taken a step further and it was suggested that it should be made unlawful for any premises or place to be opened for food production and sale of open food, prior to the issue of a licence by the local authority, and reasons were given for this viewpoint.

The 1958 report reiterated the opinion that an annual and pre-licensing system would be more efficacious towards achieving initial desirable hygienic standards and the continuity of such standards. This report also gave brief notes of a food business (a) Commenced under unsatisfactory conditions. (b) Planning approval not given. (c) Proprietor's appeal. (d) Public Inquiry. (e) Insanitary conditions found prevalent at inspection following Inquiry. (f) Appeal allowed. NOTE: Business now discontinued, but operated for a period of 1½ years.

Appropriate legislation, prohibiting the opening, commencement, or operation of a food business, except under licence, is long overdue.

Spontaneous action in regard to internal redecoration of food premises or proposed food premises often appear, relatively speaking, to apply principally to that part of food premises visible to the public or in which persons are served and not to that part of food premises in which food is prepared, stored or deposited. An annual and pre-licensing system, with legislative standards, could lead towards ideal conditions in many food preparation rooms and food storerooms, and particularly at the beginning of each legislative year. Facility of inspection would also ensue.

WORKS DONE

Accommodation for refuse provided	...	...	...	1
Sanitary conveniences provided	...	...	...	3
Food rooms repaired, altered or redecorated	...	...	...	4
Sinks installed or renewed	...	...	...	3
Wash basins installed	...	...	...	4
Constant hot water installed	...	...	...	3
Refrigerated cabinets installed	...	...	...	1
Window glazing renewed	...	...	...	1
Premises at which chipped crockery renewed	...	...	...	1

MILK SUPPLY

- (1) Routine inspection of Dairies.
- (2) Collection of Samples of milk for analysis.
 - (a) Examination for bacterial cleanliness and heat treatment.
 - (b) Examination for Tubercle Bacilli, etc.
- (3) All milk now retailed in the district is designated milk and mainly pasteurised or sterilized.

NUMBER OF SAMPLES TAKEN

Tuberculin Tested Milk (Raw)	...	...	...	...	2
Pasteurised Milk	...	...	...	...	20

21 samples of designated milk taken during the year conformed to standards laid down.

Bottle washing plant is used in one premise only.

Number of dairies registered under Milk and Dairies Regulations, 1949 (excluding farm dairies)	...	2
Number of inspections (including farm dairies and milk shops)	...	23
Preliminary Notices served	...	1

MILK (Special Designation) (Specified Areas) (No. 2)

The sale of milk within the Borough of Leominster is limited to the following designations and the standards pertaining thereto:—

- (i) Pasteurised.
- (ii) Sterilised.
- (iii) Tuberculin Tested.

Nos. (i) and (ii) above are heat-treated milk and No. (iii) Raw Milk.

CLEAN AIR ACT

The adoption of byelaws, designed to ensure that all houses erected in future be provided with grates or other fire appliances capable of burning smokeless fuels or of smokeless operation, was approved by the Council in February, 1957. Two premises with coal-fired boilers now use coke in place of coal, and one coal fired boiler is to be converted to oil in 1960.

PUBLIC SWIMMING BATH

- | | | | |
|-----|-------------------|-----|---|
| (1) | Description ... | ... | Modern Open Air Swimming Bath (Un-heated). |
| (2) | WATER SUPPLY ... | ... | Potable fresh water ^{from} Borough Main. Bath emptied and re-filled annually. |
| (3) | TREATMENT ... | ... | By high pressure continuous filtration plant and chemical treatment (Chlorine and ammonia gases). |
| (4) | WATER CHANGE ... | ... | Water circulated continuously through filter while bath in use. TURNOVER PERIOD—4-hours. |
| (5) | WATER SAMPLES ... | ... | 28 bacteriological samples taken from bath, 25 of which were free of Bact. coli. |

ABATTOIR

Certain works, such as lining of interiors of roofs, whitewashing of walls and ceilings within the slaughtering bays, together with incidental repairs, were carried out at the abattoir during the year.

The abattoir, built in 1877, however, falls far short of the standards prescribed in the Slaughterhouse (Hygiene) Regulations, 1958, Part II, Construction, and Part III Equipment, and the standards prescribed in Part II of the Slaughter of Animals (Prevention of Cruelty) Regulations, 1958.

METHOD OF MEAT INSPECTION

In accordance with the Ministry of Food, Memo 3/Meat, inasfar as is reasonably practicable.

ANTE-MORTEM and POST-MORTEM INSPECTIONS

Inspection of all carcasses is carried out daily. Ante-mortem inspections before slaughter or post-mortem at the time of slaughter cannot, on every occasion, be carried out owing to other duties of inspector.

TRANSPORT AND CARRYING OF MEAT

- (1) Vehicles of good standard are provided.

METHOD OF DISPOSAL OF CONDEMNED FOOD

- (1) Condemned meat and other material from abattoir—after green staining—collection by private buyer.
- (2) Other foods—incineration or buried.

The undernoted foods were surrendered during the year:

46 tins Canned Meats; 8 tins Fish; 4 bottles Sauce; 90 tins Fruit; 2 tins Jam; 17 lbs. Sausages; 114 lbs. Imported Beef; 8 tins Fruit Juice; 30 lbs. Fruit; 26 jars Jam; 3 lbs. Bacon; 1 tin Cream; 19 tins Vegetables; 39 tins Milk; 13 jars Vegetables; 15 tins Coffee.

SANITARY INSPECTION

TABLES SHOWING INSPECTIONS CARRIED OUT DURING THE YEAR

Inspections under					Number
Housing (1936) Act	...	...	...	...	302
Housing (Public Health Acts)	...	...	...	...	70
Accommodation of Housing Applicants (Rooms, etc.)					30
Factories	...	...	...	...	61
Milk (Dairies, Schools, Shops, Vehicles)	...	...	...	...	24
Food Premises, Kitchens, Vehicles and Licensed Premises, etc.	...	...	...	...	204
Abattoir	...	...	...	...	850
Drains (Smoke, Colour and Water Tests)	...	...	...	...	11
Drains—Obstructions removed	...	...	...	...	37
Infectious Diseases, etc.	...	...	...	...	16
Rodent Control	...	...	...	...	50
Ice Cream Premises	...	...	...	...	28
Miscellaneous Visits (P.H. Act)	...	...	...	...	87
Pet Animals Act	...	...	...	...	1
Tents and Caravans	...	...	...	...	26
Dirty and verminous premises	...	...	...	...	8
Water (Towns Main, Wells, Springs and Swimming Bath)	...	...	...	...	97
Schools	...	...	...	...	8
Farms and Piggeries	...	...	...	...	5
Clean Air Act	...	...	...	...	11
Markets and Fairs	...	...	...	...	3

MEAT

CARCASES AND OFFAL INSPECTED AND CONDEMNED IN WHOLE OR IN PART

	Cattle excluding Cows	Cows	Calves	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs
Number killed	434	—	29	2,800	749
Number inspected	434	—	29	2,800	749
All diseases except Tuberculosis and Cysticerchi					
Whole carcasses condemned	—	—	—	1	—
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	80	—	—	31	18
Percentage of the number inspected affected with diseases other than tuberculosis and cysticerchi ...	18.4%	—	—	1.1%	2.4%
Tuberculosis only					
Whole carcasses condemned	—	—	—	—	—
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	2	—	—	—	7
Percentage of the number inspected affected with tuberculosis ... ..	.5%	—	—	—	.9%
Cysticercosis					
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	—	—	—	—	—

Approximate weight of diseased meat dealt with 630lbs. — — 117lbs. 175lbs.
TOTAL ... 922 lbs.

There are no licensed slaughterhouses in the Borough of Leominster. Throughout the year arrangements at the Council's Abattoir have been conducted by the Leominster Butchers Abattoir Company.

Top quality young animals are bought by butchers and excellent quality meat is retailed within the Borough.

Orphans Printing Press,
Church St., Leominster.

